Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for selecting bus mastership in a multi-master system, comprising:

a plurality of master devices configured to generate control signals relating to <u>control of a</u> bus ~~mastership~~ in the multi-master system; and

~~at least one slave device~~ <u>a plurality of slave devices connected to the master devices via the bus, each of the slave devices being</u> configured to<u>:</u>

receive the control signals from the master devices,

determine whether a conflict exists based on the control signals,

generate one or more alternate control signals for selecting bus mastership when a conflict is determined to exist, and

~~select~~ <u>determine which of the master devices obtains control of the</u> bus ~~mastership~~ using the one or more alternate control signals <u>when a conflict is determined to exist</u>.

2. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~the at least one slave device~~ <u>each of the slave devices</u> comprises:

bus selection logic configured to determine whether the control signals indicate that two or more of the master devices concurrently assert <u>control of the</u> bus ~~mastership~~ and generate a conflict indication signal when two or more of the master devices concurrently assert <u>control of</u> <u>the</u> bus ~~mastership~~, and

conflict resolution logic configured to generate the one or more alternate control signals

in response to the conflict indication signal.

3.   (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more alternate

control signals include a bus switch signal that indicates whether a change in <u>control of the</u> bus

~~mastership~~ is to occur and a bus select signal that indicates which of the master devices is to be

granted <u>control of the</u> bus ~~mastership~~.

4.   (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~the at least one slave device~~

~~includes~~ <u>each of the slave devices comprises</u>:

bus selection logic configured to determine whether the control signals indicate that none

of the master devices asserts <u>control of the</u> bus ~~mastership~~ and maintain a previous <u>grant of</u>

<u>control of the</u> bus ~~mastership selection~~ when none of the master devices asserts <u>control of the</u> bus

~~mastership~~.

5.   (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~the at least one slave device~~

<u>each of the slave devices</u> is further configured to ~~select~~ <u>determine which of the master devices</u>

<u>obtains control of</u> the bus ~~mastership~~ based on the control signals when no conflict is determined

to exist.

6.   (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the control signals include a

present signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices is operating and a

master signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices asserts <u>control of</u>

<u>the</u> bus ~~mastership~~.

7.   (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the control signals include a

master signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices asserts <u>control of</u>

<u>the</u> bus ~~mastership~~.

8.   (currently amended) A system for selecting a master in a multi-master system,

comprising:

means for ~~generating at least one control signal~~ <u>outputting first and second control signals</u>

relating to mastership in the multi-master system <u>from each of a plurality of masters in the multi-</u>

<u>master system</u>;

means for determining whether a conflict for mastership exists based on the ~~at least one~~

<u>first and second</u> control ~~signal~~ <u>signals</u>;

means for generating a switch signal and a select signal when a conflict is determined to

exist; and

means for selecting ~~a master~~ <u>one of the masters</u> using the switch signal and the select

signal.

9.   (original) A method for selecting a bus in a multi-bus system, comprising:

generating control signals relating to bus selection in the multi-bus system;

determining whether a conflict for bus selection exists based on the control signals;

generating one or more alternate control signals when a conflict is determined to exist; and

selecting a bus using the one or more alternate control signals.

10.   (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the determining includes:

determining whether the control signals indicate that two or more of the buses are to be selected concurrently, and

generating a conflict indication signal when the control signals indicate that two or more of the buses are to be selected concurrently.

11.   (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the generating one or more alternate control signals includes:

generating the one or more alternate control signals in response to the conflict indication signal.

12.   (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the one or more alternate control signals include a bus switch signal that indicates whether a change in bus selection is to occur and a bus select signal that indicates which of the buses is to be selected.

13.   (original) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

determining whether the control signals indicate that the buses are idle; and

maintaining a previous bus selection when the control signals indicate that the buses are idle.

14.   (original) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

selecting a bus using the control signals when no conflict is determined to exist.

15.   (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the control signals include a present signal that indicates whether a corresponding bus is operating and a master signal that indicates whether a corresponding bus is to be used.

16.   (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the control signals include a master signal that indicates whether a corresponding bus is to be used.

17.   (currently amended) A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by one or more processors to perform a method for selecting a master in a multi-master system, comprising:

instructions for ~~generating~~ outputting a plurality of control signals relating to selection of a master from each of a plurality of masters in the multi-master system;

instructions for determining whether a conflict for selection of a master exists based on the control signals;

instructions for generating a switch control signal and a select control signal when a conflict is determined to exist; and

instructions for selecting a master one of the masters using the switch control signal and the select control signal.

18.   (currently amended) In a multi-master system having comprising a plurality of master devices [[and]] connected to a plurality of slave devices, each of the slave devices comprising:

[[bus]] selection logic configured to determine whether control signals from the master devices indicate that two or more of the master devices concurrently assert [[bus]] mastership within the multi-master system, generate a conflict indication signal when two or more of the master devices concurrently assert [[bus]] mastership, and select [[bus]] mastership using one or more alternate control signals when two or more of the master devices concurrently assert [[bus]] mastership; and

conflict resolution logic configured to generate the one or more alternate control signals to identify [[bus]] mastership in response to the conflict indication signal.

19.   (currently amended) The slave device of claim 18, wherein the one or more alternate control signals include a [[bus]] switch signal that indicates whether a change in [[bus]] mastership is to occur and a [[bus]] select signal that indicates which of the master devices is to be granted [[bus]] mastership.

20.   (currently amended) The slave device of claim 18, wherein the control signals include a present signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices is

operating and a master signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices asserts [[bus]] mastership.

21.   (currently amended) The ~~system~~ slave device of claim 18, wherein the control signals include a master signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices asserts [[bus]] mastership.

22.   (currently amended) The ~~system~~ slave device of claim 18, wherein the [[bus]] selection logic is further configured to select the [[bus]] mastership using the control signals when the control signals indicate that one of the master devices asserts [[bus]] mastership.

23.   (currently amended) A method for selecting bus mastership in a multi-master system ~~having~~ comprising a plurality of master devices [[and]] connected to a plurality of slave devices via at least one bus, the method, performed by ~~one or more~~ each of the slave devices, comprising:

determining whether control signals from the master devices indicate that two or more of the master devices concurrently assert bus mastership;

generating one or more alternate control signals to identify which of the master devices obtains bus mastership when two or more of the master devices concurrently assert bus mastership;

~~selecting~~ <u>determining which of the master devices obtains</u> bus mastership using the one

or more alternate control signals when two or more of the master devices concurrently assert bus

mastership; and

~~selecting~~ <u>determining which of the master devices obtains</u> bus mastership using the

control signals when one of the master devices asserts bus mastership.

24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein the one or more alternate control

signals include a bus switch signal that indicates whether a change in bus mastership is to occur

and a bus select signal that indicates which of the master devices is to be granted bus mastership.

25. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein the control signals include a present

signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices is operating and a master

signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices asserts bus mastership.

26. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein the control signals include a master

signal that indicates whether a corresponding one of the master devices asserts bus mastership.

27. (currently amended) A multi-master system, comprising:

a plurality of master devices configured to generate control signals relating to bus

mastership;

conflict resolution logic configured to receive the control signals from the master devices,

determine whether the control signals indicate that two or more of the master devices

concurrently assert bus mastership, and generate a switch signal and a select signal when it is

determined that two or more of the master devices concurrently assert bus mastership; and

a plurality of slave devices configured to select bus mastership using the [[the]] switch

signal and the select signal when the control signals indicate that two or more of the master

devices concurrently assert bus mastership.

28.   (original) A multi-bus system, comprising:

a plurality of buses;

a plurality of master devices corresponding to the buses, each of the master devices

controlling a corresponding one of the buses, the master devices generating control signals that

indicate which of the buses is an active bus; and

a plurality of slave devices connected to each of the buses and configured to receive the

control signals, determine whether the control signals indicate that two or more of the buses are

declared active buses, and select one of the buses when the control signals indicate that two or

more of the buses are declared active buses.

29.   (original) The multi-bus system of claim 28, wherein the slave devices are further

configured to generate alternate control signals when the control signals indicate that two or more

of the buses are declared active buses and select one of the buses using the alternate control

signals.

30.   (original) The multi-bus system of claim 28, further comprising:

conflict resolution logic configured to receive the control signals, determine whether the control signals indicate that two or more of the buses are declared active buses, and generate a plurality of alternate control signals when it is determined that two or more of the buses are declared active buses.

31.   (original) The multi-bus system of claim 30, wherein the slave devices are configured to select one of the buses using the alternate control signals.